

## Federal Communications Commission Washington, D.C. 20554

December 5, 2019

Aaron Sankin MuckRock News Dept. MR 83466 411A Highland Ave. Somerville, MA 02144 83466-16482381@requests.muckrock.com

Re: FOIA Control No. FCC-2020-000111

## Mr. Sankin:

This letter responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for, "text of all FOIA requests, as well as communications between your agency and the requesters subsequent to the submission of these requests, filed by the representatives from the following companies: Google; Facebook; Amazon; Apple; Twitter. Please limit the date range of this request to the period between January 1, 2015 and the date when the search for responsive records is carried out." Your request has been assigned FOIA Control No. 2020-111.

The Office of the Managing Director conducted a search and found no responsive records.

We are required by both the FOIA and the Commission's own rules to charge requesters certain fees associated with the costs of searching for, reviewing, and duplicating the sought after information.<sup>1</sup> To calculate the appropriate fee, requesters are classified as: (1) commercial use requesters; (2) educational requesters, non-commercial scientific organizations, or representatives of the news media; or (3) all other requesters.<sup>2</sup>

Pursuant to section 0.466(a)(5)-(7) of the Commission's rules, you have been classified as category (2), "educational requesters, non-commercial scientific organizations, or representatives of the news media." As an "educational requester, non-commercial scientific organization, or representative of the news media," the Commission assesses charges to recover the cost of reproducing the records requested, excluding the cost of reproducing the first 100 pages. The production in response to your request did not involve more than 100 pages of duplication. Therefore, you will not be charged any fees.

You have requested a fee waiver pursuant to section 0.470(e) of the Commission's rules.<sup>4</sup> As you are not required to pay any fees in relation to your FOIA request, the Office of the General Counsel, which reviews such requests, does not make a determination on your request for a fee waiver.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A), 47 C.F.R. § 0.470.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 0.470.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 0.466(a)(5)-(7).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 0.470(e).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 0.470(e)(5).

If you consider this to be a denial of your FOIA request, you may seek review by filing an application for review with the Office of General Counsel. An application for review must be *received* by the Commission within 90 calendar days of the date of this letter. You may file an application for review by mailing the application to Federal Communications Commission, Office of General Counsel, 445 12<sup>th</sup> St SW, Washington, DC 20554, or you may file your application for review electronically by e-mailing it to FOIA-Appeal@fcc.gov. Please caption the envelope (or subject line, if via e-mail) and the application itself as "Review of Freedom of Information Action."

If you would like to discuss this response before filing an application for review to attempt to resolve your dispute without going through the appeals process, you may contact the Commission's FOIA Public Liaison for assistance at:

FOIA Public Liaison
Federal Communications Commission, Office of the Managing Director,
Performance Evaluation and Records Management
445 12<sup>th</sup> St SW, Washington, DC 20554
202-418-0440
FOIA-Public-Liaison@fcc.gov

If you are unable to resolve your FOIA dispute through the Commission's FOIA Public Liaison, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS), the Federal FOIA Ombudsman's office, offers mediation services to help resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies. The contact information for OGIS is:

Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road–OGIS
College Park, MD 20740-6001
202-741-5770
877-684-6448
ogis@nara.gov
ogis.archives.gov

Sincerely,

Vanessa Lamb

Acting Associate Managing Director Performance Evaluation and Records

Vanessa Lamb

Management

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.461(j), 1.115; 47 C.F.R. § 1.7 (documents are considered filed with the Commission upon their receipt at the location designated by the Commission).